

MARY FORWARD.

APRIL 3, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 4930.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4930) granting a pension to Mary Forward, respectfully report:

This claimant was married December 24, 1855, to Charles Branch, who served in Company I, Tenth Veteran Reserve Corps, and who died March 24, 1865. She was pensioned as his widow until October 7, 1866, when she was again married, this time to Joseph Forward, who died December 22, 1891. The claimant is now old, disabled, and needy. She was the wife of the soldier during the war, and cared for their three children during his absence in the service.

In view of these facts your committee are of opinion that this woman should not be left to suffer in her age and decrepitude. In consequence of her remarriage the Government was relieved from the payment of about \$2,300, the amount she would have received as pension from date of her remarriage to the present time had she not remarried.

Your committee are of opinion that she should be again pensioned and recommend the passage of the bill with an amendment, striking out the words "of Allegan, Michigan," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "formerly the."